

NPIC/TDS-167/67  
15 September 1967

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director, NPIC

SUBJECT: Further Amplification Concerning [ ]  
Chip Comparators

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REFERENCES: NPIC/TDS-155/67 dated 30 August 1967 and [ ]  
note attached thereto

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1. On 7 September 1967 [ ]  
[ ] of [ ] gave a presentation concerning  
their company's position on the chip comparators. In attendance  
were representatives of PAG, IAS, TID, DIA, TDS; and OL.

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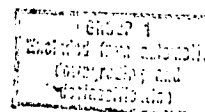
2. A brief review on the development of the comparators,  
with emphasis on why it took so long, was given by [ ]  
[ ] then reviewed the current program for modifying the  
comparators to an acceptable level of performance. They are now  
in the process of reassembling the two 405B's returned to them and  
will start formal testing procedures on or about the 13th of  
September. Unless unanticipated problems are encountered both  
machines should be ready for shipment by the first of October. Based  
on recent performance of the 405 AM, presently operating in IAS, and  
the results of their recent analysis and design changes, there is  
reason to be confident that an acceptable 405 B comparator will  
soon be available. This confidence is based, however, on TDS/EPS's  
ability to set up and maintain a successful calibration and  
maintenance program. The chip comparators are a highly sophisticated  
and sensitive piece of equipment and cannot be considered in the  
same operational and maintenance category as, for instance, light  
tables and microscopes.

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3. [ ] requested that the three remaining 405 B's  
be returned to the factory, at our convenience, for the same modifica-  
tions as the two machines they now are working on. In addition they  
consider it advisable, and TDS concurs, that the 405 AM (prototype)  
also be returned for similar modifications. All six comparators  
would then be essentially identical from an operational standpoint.  
[ ] estimates that the work on all four machines can be  
completed within three months from receipt of the comparators.

DECLASS REVIEW by NIMA/DOD

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4. It was pointed out to [ ] that our acceptance would be based on: (1) operational reliability, (2) ease of operation, (3) adequate maintenance and calibration procedures be developed, and (4) that it be repeatable and accurate over  $4\frac{1}{4}$ " x  $4\frac{1}{4}$ ".

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5. [ ] indicated privately to [ ] that they could not complete the modifications within existing funds. [ ] was then called back in and the situation was explained to him. [ ] estimates that they have enough money to complete the work and testing on the two 405 B's now at their facility, but that additional funds would be required to modify the remaining three 405 B's. At this time, no additional funds are anticipated for the 405 AM prototype. [ ] indicated that they considered the funding of both an overrun and an increase in scope. [ ] requested that [ ] prepare the necessary documentation and submit it to him and then the validity of their request will be considered. The problem concerning the validity of their request for funds based on increased scope is NPIC's insistence that certain reliability and maintenance features be incorporated before we can consider the 405 B's operationally acceptable. Additional discussion on this will have to be deferred until [ ] increased finding justification is received. Any change in scope and overrun funding will not involve R&D funds.

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6. At this time, TDS knows of no other NPIC contracts on which there are "agreed changes" that are not officially covered by the Office of Logistics.

[ ]  
Assistant for Technical Development, NPIC

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Attachments: as stated in REFERENCE

Distribution:

- Original - NPIC/Exec. Dir.
- 1 - NPIC/A/PA (w/o att)
- 1 - NPIC/C/TID (w/o att)
- 1 - DDI/C/IAS (w/o att)
- 1 - DIAAP-9C2 (attn: Cmdr. [ ] (w/o att)
- 1 - NPIC/SS/LB (w/o att)
- 1 - NPIC/TDS/EPs (w/o att)
- 3 - NPIC/TDS/DS (w/o att)
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